

Studying Intelligence Work

Times Editorials: The New York Times:

Your editorial of May 19 "Sequel to the Powers Case" points up very effectively a critical situation that was dealt with by the Hoover Commission in its study of the intelligence activities of the United States. You recommend that Congress set up a watchdog committee to monitor C. I. A. operations. The Hoover Commission went further and recommended two watchdog committees, one by the Congress, the other of eminent citizens to be named by the President, the two to collaborate in matters of importance to the national security.

The commission's recommendation reads:

"(a) That the President appoint a committee of experienced private citizens, who shall have the responsibility to examine and report to him periodically on the work of Government intelligence activities. This committee should also give such information to the public as the President may direct. The committee should function on a part-time and per diem basis.

"(b) That the Congress consider creating a Joint Congressional Committee on Foreign Intelligence, similar to the Joint Committee on Atomic Energy. In such case the two committees, one Presidential and the other Congressional, could collaborate on matters of special importance to the national security."

Both the Hoover Commission and its Task Force of distinguished citizens were concerned over the quality of the intelligence provided by the C. I. A. and other governmental intelligence agencies, and over the lack of "surveillance and the stewardship" of the C. I. A.

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